

Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace the Abstract with the following amended Abstract. For the convenience of the Examiner, a marked up version of the same amended Abstract is also shown below.

ABSTRACT

A method of automatically configuring media connections ~~when operating in forced speed and duplex mode,~~ includes: connecting a first pair of connectors to a first pair of conductors and a second pair of connectors to a second pair of conductors during a first state, and connecting the first pair of connectors to the second pair of conductors and the second pair of connectors to the first pair of conductors during a second state; ~~and holding the first state or the second state if operating in forced speed and duplex mode, a defined time has not expired and another end of a link can receive a signal.~~ An apparatus for automatically configuring media connections ~~when operating in forced speed and duplex mode,~~ includes: a media switch ~~configured to connect a first pair of connectors to a first pair of conductors and a second pair of connectors to a second pair of conductors during a first state, and to connect the first pair of connectors to the second pair of conductors and the second pair of connectors to the first pair of conductors during a second state;~~ and a processor ~~coupled to the media switch and configured to hold the first state or the second state if operating in~~

~~forced speed and duplex mode, a defined time has not
expired and another end of a link can receive a signal.~~

Please replace the previously-added paragraph beginning at page 1, after line 3 with the following amended paragraph:

CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS

This application is a continuation of co-pending U.S. patent application having serial no. 10/099,372, filed March 12, 2002, which is a continuation-in-part of U.S. patent application having serial no. 09/691,726, now U.S. patent no. 6,460,078, which is a continuation of U.S. patent application having serial no. 09/190,695, now U.S. patent no. 6,175,865. Benefit of all earlier filing dates is claimed for all common subject matter. U.S. patent application serial no. 10/099,372, U.S. patent no. 6,460,078, and U.S. patent no. 6,175,865 are each hereby fully incorporated herein by reference.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 5, line 4 in the originally filed specification with the following amended paragraph:

Figure 4 is a table identifying the assignment of PHY signals (B1 DA+ to B1 DD-) to MDI and MDIX pin identification and configuration.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 11, line 10 in the originally filed specification with the following amended paragraph:

The logic used to operate an embodiment of the invention is illustrated by the state diagram shown in Figure 5. It is noted that an analog one-shot timer (reset

signal generator 136) may be used which acts to reset the state machine (which is typically in the processor 134 or implemented as the processor 134) after a long (relative to the state machine) time to provide a truly random interaction between nodes.